

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 10, 14, 24-26, and 29 are pending. In an Office action dated September 16, 2004, the Examiner withdrew the indicated allowability of Claims 1, 10, 12, 14, and 27. However, the maintained the allowability of Claims 8 and 28. To that end, Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of Claim 8, and Claim 8 has been cancelled. Claim 10 has been amended to include the limitations of Claim 8. Claims 12 and 13 have been cancelled. Claim 14 has been amended to depend from Claim 10. Claim 24 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of Claim 28, and Claim 28 has been cancelled.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 USC § 102 AND § 103: The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 4, 5, 10, 12-14, 24, and 25 as being anticipated by USPN 5,975,823 issued to Schlough. The Examiner rejected Claims 1-6, 10, 12-14, 24-26, and 29 as being anticipated by Schlough in view of USPN 4,525,116 issued to Holmberg.

Claim 1 has been amended to include a limitation found in Claim 8 (now cancelled) which depended from Claim 1. The Examiner admitted that Claim 8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. To that end the limitation from Claim 8 was added to Claim 1 placing Claim 1 in condition for allowance. Claims 2-6 each depend from Claim 1 and include all the limitations of that base claims. For the same reasons Claim 1 is patentable, so are Claims 2-6.

Claim 10 has been amended to include a limitation found in Claim 8 (now cancelled) which depended from Claim 1. The Examiner admitted that Claim 8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. To that end the limitation from Claim 8 was added to Claim 10 placing Claim 10 in condition for allowance. Claim 14 depend from Claim 10 and includes all the limitations of that base claims. For the same reasons Claim 10 is patentable, so is Claim 14.

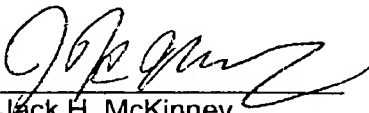
Claims 12 and 13 have been cancelled.

Claim 24 has been amended to include a limitation found in Claim 28 (now cancelled) which depended from Claim 24. The Examiner admitted that Claim 28 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. To that end the limitation from

Claim 28 was added to Claim 24 placing Claim 24 in condition for allowance. Claims 25, 26, and 29 depends from Claim 24 and includes all the limitations of that base claims. For the same reasons Claim 24 is patentable, so are Claims 25, 26, and 29

CONCLUSION: The foregoing is believed to be a complete response to the outstanding Office Action. Claims 1-6, 10, 14, 24-26, and 29 are felt to be in condition for allowance. Consequently, early and favorable action allowing these claims and passing the application to issue is earnestly solicited. The foregoing is believed to be a complete response to the outstanding Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,
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